

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Bosch's Optimistic Adviser

By HAL HENDRIX
Miami News Latin America Editor

SANTO DOMINGO

"This a country in which people see ghosts where there are no ghosts . . . it has no democratic traditions."

This is an expression of Sascha Volman, the Romanian-born man-in-a-hurry who has emerged here as the top personal adviser to President Juan Bosch.

It is his way of downplaying the growing influence of communism in the Dominican Republic.

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"I don't think communism is any real problem here," the naturalized U.S. citizen says, relaxing behind his desk at his office. His headquarters are situated in a light blue, two-story Spanish style residence Avenida Independencia 145.

The house formerly belonged to the family of the late Dictator Rafael Leonidas Trujillo. After he was assassinated May 30, 1961, it was occupied for a time by one of the assassins, Antonio Imbert Barrera. ("He took it away from Trujillo and we took it away from him" Volman comments).

"The basic danger in this country is the problem of



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the peasants," Volman comments, continuing his views on current topics of interest in the Dominican Republic. "If Juan (President Bosch) can't solve this problem and agrarian reform he will have trouble then. This country is on the move and if Juan can't keep on top of it he will be lost."

Volman also feels strongly that if President Bosch is going to steer the Dominican ship of state properly he cannot afford to be tagged a "lackey of the United States."

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On the subject of noticeable increased activity by the Communists in this country, Volman quickly replies that whatever number of Communists may be active are the responsibility of last year's ruling seven-man council of state government and the National Civic Union, principal opposition par-

ty against President Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party.

Volman literally bubbles over with expositions on what "we" are going to do in the social revolution to be carried out in the Dominican Republic under the Bosch Administration. The repeated use of "we" in his commentaries leads a visitor to inquire how a Romanian by birth certificate and U.S. citizen by naturalization process can suddenly become a Dominican through the pronoun "We."

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He explains, not too clearly that no matter which country he might be working in, he takes an active role in the political and social development programs. He noted that for seven years he served as a member of the executive committee of the Dominican Revolutionary Party, but has since resigned.

Volman's prominence in the Bosch official family first became easily apparent when he accompanied Bosch to Washington on an official visit before the inauguration. His shadow-like attachment to Bosch during the visit caused some eyebrows to rise in Washington at the time, particularly among the Latin American diplomatic colony.

Where Do You Stand, Mr. Bosch?

Last Of A Series.

By HAL HENDRIX

Miami News Latin America Editor

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — The head of the National Civic Union, principal political opposition party here, has called on President Juan Bosch to declare his position clearly on the problem of communism in the Dominican Republic "in the shortest possible time."

In a letter to Bosch, Dr. Viriato Fiallo, who lost the presidential election in December, said "The Communist peril in our country is evident and it assumes impulse from day to day."

The communication, dated May 14, marked the first time since Bosch's government was inaugurated that a prominent Dominican political personality has publicly expressed concern about the steady growth of Communist activity here during the last two months.

Dr. Fiallo's letter discreetly chided Bosch about Communists recently turning up in key positions in the country and government, their use of municipal halls for speech-making and assignment of public school centers for indoctrination.

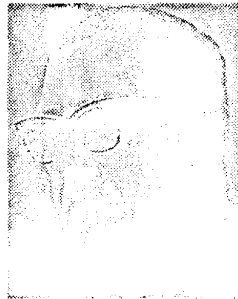
"These frustrations," the letter stated, "promote the misguidance of a people through other roads that are unknown to them. It is anguish that pushes people into false hopes and the darkness of Communist countries."

"You, Mr. President, should make a statement in a clear and defined manner, not relating to foreign policy, which is not the subject to this paragraph, but on the confusion mentioned above which is pushing our people toward ideological currents unknown to them."

Dr. Fiallo sharply rapped the Bosch government's creation of the Committees for Defense of Sugar Cane as well as the Committees for Defense of Forestal Areas. He called for their abolishment.

These two groups, which responsible observers report are actually one organization, are believed to number 17,000 and are considered to be the foundation for a "people's militia."

Dr. Fiallo noted that arming "defense committees" could revive memories "of sorrowful days" when the Trujillo dictatorship had such terror groups as the Riders of the East, the Fireflies of the Range and the Pa-



VIRIATO FIALLO
These Known Frustrations

MIAMI NEWS' HAL HENDRIX REPORTS ON DOMINICAN CRISIS:



© EVEN THE POLICE are baffled by the actions, overt as well as stealthy, of the Communists in the Dominican Republic. What is the government of President Juan Bosch doing about it? The Miami News' Pulitzer Prize-winning Latin America Editor Hal Hendrix explores the dangerous Dominican crisis in this fifth of a six-part series.

Police Watch Reds Openly Plot Way To Power

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic — One warm night last month Manuel Tavarez Justo, busy pro-Communist leader of the revolutionary June 14 Movement, delivered a two-hour speech in the city of San Pedro de Macoris.

Tavarez Justo spoke in the hall of the Municipal Palace of the city.

Local police, puzzled about his choice of a meeting site, were astonished to discover that he was doing it legally. He had a government permit, issued in Santo Domingo, to use the municipal building.

In the course of his speech, as reported by the commanding police officer to his superiors in the capital, Tavarez Justo exhorted his audience to support the administration of President Juan Bosch and to oppose "Yankee imperialism."

The police report stated that Tavarez Justo declared that his party is not Communist but nationalist "because its main interest is to fight for the interest of the people."

But, according to the local police commander, Tavarez Justo added that he "is a Leninist because that is the only way to bring happiness to the people."

Tavarez Justo was quoted as declaring that he will oppose "any intent by the present administration of not fulfilling the pledges made before it assumed power, risking life if necessary for national liberation."

POLICE ALERTED

The police official noted in his report that about 100 persons attended the meeting and "everything was conducted in normalcy."

About the same time Tavarez Justo was working in the San Pedro de Macoris area, national police headquarters in Santo Domingo received the following interoffice memorandum from a commander in Santiago de los Caballeros, the country's second largest city:

"I respectfully inform you that the notorious Communist Maximo Lopez Molina, head of the Dominican Popular Movement, is loitering in this city, accompanied by students and others belonging to the June 14 Movement and to the group that he leads . . .

"Yesterday afternoon they were at the headquarters of the 14th of June, giving instructions and indoctrination on how to assault military outposts . . .

"We have also been informed that from here they will travel to the city of Puerto Plata, and we have accordingly notified

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the police of that city in advance of his arrival there . . ."

Another memo from the Santiago police to national headquarters reported on a rally led by Lopez Molina in the city's Colon Park. It stated, in part:

"Followers of said leader and students from various public schools bearing banners with Communist slogans and signs such as 'Viva Fidel Castro,' 'Nikita Khrushchev' and 'Maximo Lopez Molina.'

"Upon (Lopez Molina's) arrival they marched from Colon Park to Plaza Valerio, all of them carrying red and black banners and shouting 'vivas' to Communist leaders mentioned above . . .

"The crowd that participated numbered approximately 3,000 people and 75 per cent were students."

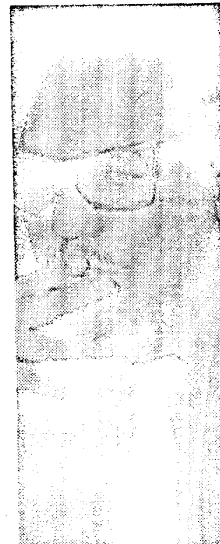
The memo noted that several officers and 50 enlisted men remained at all times "in the area of developments upon arrival of Maximo Lopez Molina, making a display of force to avert a possible riot."

AND THEN THE FIRES

Another inter-departmental memorandum from police headquarters in Barahona to the capital reported that shortly after Lopez Molina visited, a rash of fires broke out in sugar cane fields in the area.

These incidents have involved only two of the more prominent Communist agents who have been permitted to roam and speak freely throughout the Dominican Republic since the inauguration in March of President Juan Bosch, who has established a policy of free speech for all elements, including the Communists. Bosch has been praised in Washington and Venezuela as "a champion of democracy."

Lopez Molina returned here from Havana last month and was accorded what observers termed a splendid welcome at



Maximo Lopez Molina

the airport. He has been politicking around the country since his arrival, but has toned down his past blood-in-the-street type of harangue in favor of more pacific policies and emphasis on Communist ideology.

Three other well known Dominican Communists who were deported last fall and returned from Cuba in March and April now are living in the home of President Bosch's minister of interior and police, Miguel Angel Dominguez Guerra.

They are Juan Decoudray and his brother, Felix, both leaders in the Popular Socialist Party, and poet Pedro Mir, who tells Dominican youth "the Cuban revolution must be the example for all of Latin America."

HEAR IT FIRST . . .

There are known to be a number of Communist-operated radio transmitters here for direct communication with Havana. It is believed that, with support of Dominguez Guerra, the Decoudray brothers operate one of the shortwave sets.

Anti-Communist Dominicans and other observers here note that it is not unusual to hear a report on Radio Havana about an event in Santo Domingo before the report is broadcast over local Dominican stations.

In a recent strike, for instance, one of the negotiators disclosed that often before he could return to his office he could hear on Radio Havana an account of the afternoon bargaining session.

Maximo Bernard is another key Communist who was deported last fall but now is back in operation here without any problems.

In his early 20s, Bernard handles the peasant farmer affairs for the June 14 Movement. Considered to be one of the movement's brighter young men — as well as one its most dangerous — he returned from a visit behind the Iron Curtain just before Bosch's inauguration. But his last Western port of call was Paris.

LABOR PROBLEMS

Angel Miolan, who has become president of the Dominican Revolutionary Party since Bosch's election to the national palace, is busy with party reorganization work and has been taking an active role in labor negotiations.

Miolan's abilities in the labor field are skilled. Several years ago he served as secretary for Mexico's Vicente Lombardo Tolezano, who then was the Communist labor czar for Latin America.

It is noteworthy that in the last two months there has been an appreciable progress in development of Communist cells in various industrial complexes of the country.

There are reports of cases in the labor field where the Communists have warned democratic union members "to play ball with us now or we'll bust up any and all of your strikes."

Meanwhile, with more than 150 deported Communists now back in the country and going about their business of infiltration, worried high-ranking military officers declare they cannot understand Bosch's soft attitude on communism here.

WHY NOT FIGHT NOW?

"He tells the army he doesn't want to upset the Communists and make the same mistakes that Venezuelan President Romulo Betancourt did," remarked a bitter colonel.

"That's really a hell of a position to take. Obviously, the Communists are going to make trouble for us, so why not fight them here and now?"

"The problem's just getting bigger every day. The day is fast approaching when it's one step from companion to comrade."

TOMORROW: Another political party speaks out.